

**Division of Wildlife Conservation**  
**Bruce Dale, Director**  
Region IV, Dillingham Area Office  
PO Box 1030  
Dillingham, AK 99576



**Alaska Department of Fish and Game**  
**Sam Cotten, Commissioner**  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526  
[www.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov)

## **PRESS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release: December 8, 2017*

### **CONTACT:**

**Neil Barten**  
**Dillingham Area Biologist**  
**Phone: (907) 842-1599**  
[neil.barten@alaska.gov](mailto:neil.barten@alaska.gov)



### **Unit 17C portion of the Winter Moose Hunt (RM585) Closes**

(DILLINGHAM) – The Unit 17C portion of winter registration permit moose hunt RM585 will close by emergency order on Sunday, December 10, 2017, at 11:59 p.m.

Composition surveys indicate the Unit 17C bull:cow ratio is currently well below the minimum biologists try to manage for, post-hunting season. With eight moose already reported taken and approximately 240 permits issued, additional moose will likely be harvested prior to the closure.

Relatively good snowmachine travel conditions this year have increased the RM585 hunt's popularity, and biologists believe closing the hunting season is necessary to prevent further overharvest of bulls in Unit 17C. Incomplete harvest reporting has also added uncertainty for managers working to tally the harvest for in-season management of this hunt.

For additional information, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dillingham at (907) 842-2334, or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, at (907) 842-1063.

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